



MINUTES OF MEETING TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 7:00 PM

This meeting was recorded as a public record for access and available at the following link:

<https://rockvillemd.webex.com/recording/service/sites/rockvillemd/recording/1e84a3a18c62103ab708aea69a983feb/playback>

Agenda

1. Call to Order (7:05 PM)
 - a. Roll Call – Members Present: Kathleen Kleinmann (Chair), Bill He, Doug Ierley, Jude Abanulo, Marc Plante, Mike Stein, Ying Wong. Excused: Emily Bailey
 - b. Staff and guests: Councilmember Daivd Myles, Eric Fulton, Duwan Morris, Judy Rudolph, John Becker
 - c. Review of February 22, 2022 meeting minutes, and vote for approval

MOTION: Mike Stein moved to approve February 2022 meeting minutes; SECONDED: Doug Ierley. DISCUSSION: none; APPROVED: 6 – 0, 1 abstention (Marc Plante)

- d. Review and modifications of current agenda
 - e. General announcements by Chairperson and Commissioners

- i. Chair Kleinmann indicated that an upcoming education opportunity regarding electric vehicle infrastructure. This presentation and discussion

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would be would likely be a joint hearing with the Environment Commission in the summer.

- ii. Chair Kleinmann attended the recent King Farm community meeting with Mayor and Council. The meeting was well-attended and covered a variety of issues. The community is interested in implementing Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) signals in the community as well as exploring opportunities for a tunnel or bridge crossing MD 355.
- iii. Chair Kleinmann participated in a conference call with Nancy Breen and Eric Fulton, Chairs of the Rockville Bicycle Advisory and Pedestrian Advocacy Committees, respectively. They discussed possible code amendments regarding the structure and duties of the T&T Commission as well as other future opportunities for collaboration.
- iv. Chair Kelinmann also attended the recent Montgomery County Families for Safe Streets meeting. This group continues to advocate for safer transportation facilities.
- v. The Pedestrian Master Plan is ongoing. Staff are seeking recommendations for additional pedestrian pathways that can be added to the plan.

2. City Staff reports and updates (7:15 PM)

City Update –

- a. City staff continue to pursue opportunities for grant funded projects. Staff has recently submitted grants for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (MWCOG) Transportation Land-Use Connections program as well as the MWCOG Regional Roadway

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Safety Program. Applicants will be notified in late April and May, respectively. Staff is also exploring opportunities for additional transportation grants from the Maryland Department of Transportation. These include:

- i. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP); application window is from April 15-May 16, 2022.
<https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=144>
- ii. Safe Routes to School program; this is a subset of the TAP grant; application window is from April 15-May 16, 2022.
<https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=144>
- iii. Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program; application window is April 25-June 2, 2022;
<https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/tso/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=28>
- iv. Maryland Highway Safety Office grants: application window closed for FY 23; Rockville City Police Department (RCPD) has submitted an application for targeted enforcement; RCPD applied and received this grant last year as well.
<https://zerodeathsmd.gov/grants/>
- v. Maryland Statewide Transit Innovation Grant; application window is May-June 26, 2022;
[https://www.mta.maryland.gov/grants#:~:text=Transit%20Innovation%20Grant-,The%20Maryland%20Department%20of%20Transportation%20Maryland%20Transit%20Administration%20\(MDOT%20MTA,and%20improving%20transit%20mobility%20options.](https://www.mta.maryland.gov/grants#:~:text=Transit%20Innovation%20Grant-,The%20Maryland%20Department%20of%20Transportation%20Maryland%20Transit%20Administration%20(MDOT%20MTA,and%20improving%20transit%20mobility%20options.)
- vi. Maryland Recreational Trails Program grant; application window open April 1-April 29, 2022;
<https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=98>

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City staff requests the T&T Commission to submit any grant project ideas by April 8, 2022.

CIP

- vii. Baltimore Rd – construction ongoing
- viii. Twinbrook Ped bridge – RFP due on Friday
- b. There are multiple ongoing Capital Improvement Program projects. Highlights include Baltimore Rd which is undergoing construction, and the Twinbrook Pedestrian Bridge Request for Proposal (RFP) which was released last month and submission window closes March 28. Submitted RFPs will be reviewed over the next month.
- c. Staff is currently coordinating with RCPD to identify all active residential parking permit districts, signed streets, and addresses that can obtain permits.
- d. The Maryland Avenue bicycle lane and road diet projects were completed in December 2021. Since its completion there has been a large decrease in the number of speeding tickets issued but automated cameras (see attached chart).

3. Introductory comments by Eric Fulton representing Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC); Discussion (7:20 PM)

- a. RPAC tracks automobile, pedestrian, and bicycle crashes each month and develops a monthly spreadsheet which is shared with Mayor and Council, RPAC, RBAC, and T&T Commission.
- b. The Pedestrian Master Plan is an ongoing project moving forward with the support of RBAC. There is an RPAC subcommittee that meets monthly with staff to discuss plan progress and brainstorm policy ideas. RPAC has also been requested to provide new recommended pathways throughout the City. Policy changes RPAC recommends including a change to the

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petition process for traffic calming and sidewalk construction, to not rely on petitions as heavily.

- c. RPAC also regularly advocates for more sidewalks and pedestrian infrastructure as well as dedicated funding for these facilities.
- d. RPAC has lastly submitting testimony for the FY 23 proposed budget, supporting increased sidewalk budgets, Civic Center sidewalks, the Town Center Road Diet, a full time ADA coordinator. The budget survey is open and available online:
<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/951/Budget-Financials>
- e. County Councilmember Evan Glass will be at 6/9 meeting

4. Introductory comments by Duwan Morris representing Safe Routes to School; Discussion 7:45pm

- a. The Montgomery County Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is a countywide program that emphasizes the five "Es" to promote safe transportation. The SRTS program focuses on education and outreach efforts to support safe walking and bicycling, these include Walk and Bike to School days, video and art contests, giveaways, and a SRTS student leaders program.
- b. SRTS requires a repetitive process to teach children and change behavior overtime. In addition to working with schools, they also work with before/after care programs.
- c. SRTS also includes walkability studies to assess roadway improvements for safe walking routes.
- d. Montgomery County funds the program and there are two dedicated staff members. They do not participate in the design of the school buildings.

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5. Subcommittee Report of Draft T&T Commission

Duties/responsibilities for city code/resolution update; feedback from City Attorneys' Office); revised draft attached. (8:20 PM)

- a. Chair Kleinmann shared the draft letter (attached) that will be sent from the T&T Commission to the Mayor and Council. This letter was drafted in response to feedback from the City Attorney's Office regarding the best process to add the T&T Commission to the City code.
- b. The Commission agreed to review the draft letter, provide comments and discuss at the April meeting.

6. Old Business (8:28 PM)

- a. Proposal document on Action by Chair between meetings; attached.
 - i. There is a desire to be able to sign off on letters of support or other public testimony. However, it is not clear if this procedure would conflict with the Open Meetings Act.
 - ii. The Commission will review the document and discuss further next month.
- b. Vision Zero updates
 - i. Every quarter, City staff submits a status report of the Vision Zero Action Plan to the Mayor and Council. This report includes actions made on all action items over the prior three months. Not all items have progress, some items have more progress than others, some items have been completed.
 - ii. The next quarterly status update will be shared with the Mayor and Council on May 2, 2022. Some highlights will include progress made to identify intersections and bicycle lanes for feasibility analysis, and updating roadway standards.

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c. Other old business

7. New Business (8:40 PM)

a. Spreadsheet on groups and topics of T&T special interest project by Doug Ierley

- i. There is a plethora of transportation related groups and project in the region and it benefits the T&T Commission if they can be mindful of what is happening in the region. Being aware of ongoing transportation groups and projects also improves the Commission's ability to provide guidance and make recommendations to the Mayor and Council. It will also up the Commission be ahead of issues and be more involved in the process.
- ii. Commissioner Ierley has created a spreadsheet with potential transportation groups and it is recommended that commissioners sign up to learn more about what is happening in the region via these groups.
- iii. The spreadsheet will be shared with the commission via a Google drive document.
- iv. There is concern that not enough time is available for commissioners to attend these meetings. Additionally there is concern that participation will blur the distinction between advisory and advocacy.

b. Announcement of Montgomery County Public Hearing 8 pm; 2-28-2022, Seven Locks Road.

- i. Montgomery County plans to redevelop their property on Seven Locks Road in Rockville. This will include additional transportation impacts and may include school bus storage.

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- c. Maryland crash fatality data report; attached.
- d. Other new business

8. Adjournment (9:09 PM)

- a. Next regular meeting April 26, 2022

Submitted by: Bryan Barnett-Woods

Reviewed by: Kathleen Kleinmann

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